

Acknowledgements

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/aicr.80.01ack>

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**Mind Ascribed: An elaboration and defence of
interpretivism**

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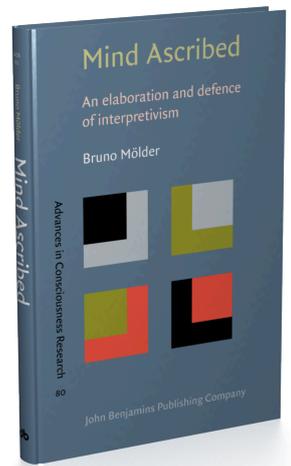
[*Advances in Consciousness Research*, 80]

2010. xii, 293 pp.

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Acknowledgements

This book has been in gestation for almost a decade. I was hooked by the interpretivist approach already in 1997, when reading Dennett's papers. There seemed something deeply right about it, but at the same time there remained a nagging feeling that it is not altogether straightforward to pin down what exactly is right about interpretivism and how should this position be formulated and understood. I hope that with the present book I have managed to soothe this feeling.

This book stems from my University of Konstanz dissertation, refereed by Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Spohn and Prof. Dr. Jürgen Mittelstraß. The oral examination took place in Konstanz at the 10th of May 2007. I am grateful to my referees for their kind remarks. When working on these issues I was supervised by Wolfgang Spohn and Wolfgang Benkewitz and I thank both for their guidance and encouragement. My studies in Konstanz were supported by a scholarship from Herbert Quandt Stiftung and a three-year scholarship from DAAD.

My thinking on interpretivism has benefited from discussions and advice from several people in different periods. The earlier developments of the ascription theory appeared already in my University of Tartu MA thesis in 1999 and in my MPhil thesis at the University of Cambridge at 2000. I am grateful to all who helped me in those early days, especially to Ross Harrison for his supervision sessions.

The bulk of the present work was finished in the summer of 2006, after that its content has not changed significantly, although I have made several revisions in order to increase the readability and to make the presentation more concise and concentrated. In this regard, I would like to thank Daniel Cohnitz for helpful comments, Margit Sutrop for organisational support and Paul McLaughlin for checking my English. Special thanks to the series editor Maxim Stamenov and to an anonymous reviewer for comments and suggestions. Finally, I am grateful to my parents, Käthe and Olev Mölder, for their moral support over the years. This book is dedicated to them.

While working with the manuscript in its latter stages, I acknowledge the support by the basic financing scheme "Information and representation", the targeted financing scheme No. SF0180110s08 at the University of Tartu and the Estonian Science Foundation grant No. ETF7163.

The trains of thought developed in this book were presented in various occasions and I am thankful to the respective audiences: the seminar on truth in Järveküla (May 1997); University of Tartu (June 1999 and December 2002); Logic in Philosophy workgroup colloquium at the University of Konstanz (January 2002); NAMICONA workshop in Hotel Koldingfjord (December 2004); The first annual Estonian philosophy conference at the University of Tartu (May 2005); Turku-Tartu philosophy workshop (June 2005); University of Latvia (May 2006); GAP.6. conference in Freie Universität Berlin (September 2006); Toward a Science of Consciousness 2007 conference in Budapest (July 2007).

A earlier version of Section 6.2 was published as “An argument for interpretivism” in *Selected Papers Contributed to the Sections of GAP.6: Sixth International Congress of the Society for Analytical Philosophy*, Helen Bohse & Sven Walter (eds), Paderborn: Mentis, 2008, pp. 474–483.